



## Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

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### **DRAFT MINUTES FOR INTERNET PRESCRIBING SUBCOMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE Held at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29, 2006 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona**

#### ***Subcommittee Members***

Robert P. Goldfarb, M.D., F.A.C.S., Chair

Ram R. Krishna, M.D.

Douglas D. Lee, M.D.

William R. Martin III, M.D.

Paul M. Petelin, Sr., M.D.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

The following Board Members were present: Robert P. Goldfarb, M.D., Douglas D. Lee, M.D. and William R. Martin, III, M.D. The following Board Members were not present: Ram R. Krishna, M.D. and Paul M. Petelin, Sr., M.D.

#### **CALL TO PUBLIC**

No one was present for the call to the public.

#### **NON-TIME SPECIFIC ITEMS**

##### **I. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Douglas D. Lee, M.D. moved to approve the November 22, 2006 Internet Prescribing Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

**SECONDED:** William R. Martin, III, M.D.

**VOTE:** 3-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent

**MOTION PASSED.**

##### **II. Approval of Substantive Policy Statement re: Internet Prescribing**

Robert P. Goldfarb, M.D. provided some wording changes to the Substantive Policy Statement (SPS). Dr. Goldfarb suggested on page two, it should read "conducting a physical exam" rather than "obtaining a physical exam". Dr. Goldfarb also suggested on page three on the last paragraph, replace "conduct" instead of "obtain" an appropriate physical examination.

Timothy Miller, J.D., Executive Director said he also had dropped the word "obtain" and substituted "conduct" on the first page and re-worded another sentence on the same page to drop the word "obtain" a physical examination.

Douglas D. Lee, M.D. stated he preferred the SPS state the physical examination should be conducted rather than obtained because conducting an examination could be interpreted as something a physician could do telephonically. Robert P. Goldfarb, M.D. noted that if a nurse practitioner or physician assistant performed the examination and the physician cosigned the record it would be acceptable and would meet the standard of care. Mr. Miller said he did not want to send the message to the community that it was not appropriate to rely on a physician assistant or a nurse practitioner.

Dr. Goldfarb suggested on page three that there be a change from "evaluation" instead of "examination" to read "The examination may need to be performed..."

Mr. Miller noted telemedicine practice relies on previous patient examinations that are already in the medical record. Mr. Miller also said telemedicine practice will conduct patient examinations through video and the physicians who practice telemedicine perform a traditional examination, but cannot perform hands on activities such as palpating the patient. Dr. Lee said he does not want to allow a physician to conduct a physical examination and say it all "looks" okay, without ever touching the patient. Christine Cassetta, Board Legal Counsel suggested adding a footnote to clarify what the Board means when it uses "conduct" a physical examination. Ms. Cassetta stated she and

Mr. Miller would work on drafting a footnote and it would be included in the final draft that will be voted on the Board at the December meeting.

**MOTION: William R. Martin, III, M.D. moved to approve the Substantive Policy Statement regarding Internet Prescribing.**

**SECONDED: Douglas D. Lee, M.D.**

**VOTE: 3-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent**

**MOTION PASSED.**

**MOTION: William R. Martin, III, M.D. moved to accept the proposed changes to the November 22, 2006 Internet Prescribing Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.**

**SECONDED: Douglas D. Lee, M.D.**

**VOTE: 3-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent**

**MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.



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Timothy C. Miller, J.D., Executive Director